



DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR

SHAN S. TSUTSUI
LT. GOVERNOR

**STATE OF HAWAII
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS**

335 MERCHANT STREET, ROOM 310

P.O. Box 541

HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

Phone Number: 586-2850

Fax Number: 586-2856

cca.hawaii.gov

CATHERINE P. AWAKUNI COLÓN
DIRECTOR

JO ANN M. UCHIDA TAKEUCHI
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

**PRESENTATION OF THE
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS**

TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON CONSUMER PROTECTION AND COMMERCE

TWENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

Regular Session of 2015

Wednesday, April 22, 2015

1:00 p.m.

**TESTIMONY ON SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 46, S.D. 2,
REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF
COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS TO CONVENE A WORKING GROUP TO
EVALUATE THE LICENSING OF PRIVATE TRADE, VOCATIONAL, AND
TECHNICAL SCHOOLS.**

TO THE HONORABLE ANGUS L.K. McKELVEY, CHAIR,
AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE:

My name is Catherine Awakuni Colón, Director of the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs ("DCCA"). DCCA appreciates the opportunity to provide comments on Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 46, S.D. 2 ("Resolution").

This Resolution requests that Hawaii's Department of Education ("DOE") and DCCA, in collaboration with existing licensed private trade, vocational, and technical schools ("PTVT Schools"), to "convene a working group to evaluate and review the State's current licensing program for [PTVT Schools] established pursuant to Act 89,

Session Laws of Hawaii 1996, as amended, and to consider alternative licensing program structures or models that are in the best interest of private trade, vocational, and technical schools and for students in the State of Hawaii.” In addition, the working group is to consider a licensing process that protects consumers from “false, deceptive, misleading, and unfair practices” by PTVT Schools, as well as ensuring adequate educational quality at these schools. The impact of any fees or licensing costs associated with a new licensing system are also to be examined. Interested stakeholders are to be part of the working group’s discussions. Finally, a report is requested of the departments’ findings ahead of the 2016 legislative session.

This Resolution was amended in the Senate to incorporate requests made by the DOE to highlight the need to increase the level of consumer protection against “false, deceptive, misleading, or unfair practices” by PTVT Schools, but it is not clear to DCCA at this time that there has been an increase in the kinds of negative activities perpetrated against students of PTVT Schools that this Resolution seems to imply in its current form. However, DCCA fully supports adequate protections for consumers in the State, and would support appropriate action if found to be necessary after thoughtful consideration.

Thus, recognizing the Legislature’s and the DOE’s desires to evaluate the existing PTVT School licensing program and to consider alternative methods or models for licensing these institutions, DCCA does not object to this Resolution.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on this measure.

woodson2-Rachel

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 20, 2015 1:23 PM
To: CPCtestimony
Cc: mendezj@hawaii.edu
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SCR46 on Apr 22, 2015 13:00PM*

SCR46

Submitted on: 4/20/2015

Testimony for CPC on Apr 22, 2015 13:00PM in Conference Room 016

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Javier Mendez-Alvarez	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
P.O. BOX 2360
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96804

LATE

KATHRYN S. MATAYOSHI
SUPERINTENDENT

Date: 04/22/2015

Time: 01:00 PM

Location: 016

Committee: House Consumer Protection and
Commerce

Department: Education

Person Testifying: Kathryn S. Matayoshi, Superintendent of Education

Title of Resolution: SCR 046, SD2 REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
AND DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS TO
CONVENE A WORKING GROUP TO EVALUATE THE LICENSING OF
PRIVATE TRADE, VOCATIONAL, AND TECHNICAL SCHOOLS.

**Purpose of
Resolution:**

Department's Position:

The Department of Education (Department) strongly supports SCR 46 SD2.

The Department looks forward to establishing a joint working group co-led by the Department of Education and the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs to evaluate and review the current licensing of private trade, vocational, and technical schools, and to consider alternative licensing program structures or models.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony on SCR 46 SD2.